



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy Directors, Public Universities and Community Colleges, Public School Academy Authorizers

**FROM:** Tom Watkins

**DATE:** August 18, 2003

**SUBJECT:** 2003-2004 Charter School Competitive Start-Up Grant - Ninth Cycle

The Michigan Department of Education is pleased to announce the Implementation part of the 2003-2004 Charter School Competitive Start-Up Grant - Ninth Cycle. This program is supported through funds from the United States Department of Education.

The purpose of the Public Charter Schools Program (PCSP) is to expand the number of high-quality, innovative educational programs and provide financial assistance for planning, program design, and initial implementation of public charter schools.

The purpose of this grant is to award funds to eligible applicants for *initial implementation* of a public school academy.

In this part of the program, funds up to **\$1,700,000** will be made available for activities consistent with the grant program criteria.

The 2003-04 Charter Schools Start-Up Grant Application must be completed and submitted using the Michigan Electronic Grants System (MEGS). This system is available at <http://meis.mde.state.mi.us/megs> and requires a MEIS Login and Password, as well as the appropriate level of access to MEGS. Access levels for operational public school academies are granted by the Authorized Official(s) for the academy. Access for pre-operational academies may be obtained by contacting Kim Sidel at 517/373-3345.

Applications must be submitted by **Monday, October 6, 2003**.

Questions about the Charter School Grant Program or the application materials may be directed to Greg Olszta in the Public School Academy Program at 517/241-4715.

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